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In 1986 I testified on Grand Canyon overflights at a hearing held by the National Park Service in Phoenix, Arizona. At that time I described the air traffic over the Canyon as reminding me all too much of Vietnam. I was pleased when Congress enacted the National Parks Overflight Act of 1987.

Since that time I have been severely disappointed with the results. It seems as if the Act has absolutely no meaning. My Grand Canyon hikes are still punctuated with the incessant sounds of air traffic. I can tell when it is 8:15 am without looking at my watch. The sight and sound of the air traffic heading out on patrol for the tourists is every bit as intrusive as any combat assault the First Cavalry launched on the jungles of Vietnam.

I would like to be able to experience the Grand Canyon without being reminded of combat. The phenomenal increase in air traffic over the Canyon suggests that the FAA has totally ignored the wishes of Congress in implementing the National Parks Overflight Act of 1987. I strongly urge the FAA to recognize that it has as much responsibility to the natural quiet of the Grand Canyon and its earth bound visitors as it does to the profits of the air tour industry.

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